

Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club



Monthly Newsletter

In B&W (color version available online)

Members: FREE

May 2006

Editor: Jim Schuler

Next Club Meeting

Date: Saturday, May 27th

Time: 11:00 AM Sharp

Where: Club Hangar

Special Topic(s):

- *Quad City Air Show*



Monster Hangar Build Team Progress Report

This past month saw a few major steps completed for the build team. We have moved back into the club hangar after spending the winter across the runway in Sun Aero's hangar. It was a painful move, causing us to realize just how spoiled we were over there, but the move revitalized the team and got us going again.

It was going to be a surprise, but what the heck... the proto-gyro has successfully completed several flights. On May 6th, Nick, Adam, and Chuck quote "flew the hell out of it", making minor adjustments between flights. The group started out making patterns and landings, followed by some good ol' safe gyro flying. The rudder controls have been touchy, especially right after take off – so the steering system has undergone many adjustments.

The gyro has been described as a very well balanced, smooth flying machine. Nick, Adam, and Chuck all enjoyed their flights. Since the flight, the gyro has been taxied around many times to get a feeling for the steering adjustments, but it has not flown since that day.

Word on the street from Mr. Tom Milton is that our club's build project is very popular across the country, with other clubs talking about this gyro as if they were right here with us. Let's keep this momentum up as we move into the summer and begin building more gyros.

Letter From The President

This past Friday, the 19th Nick Costa and I were at the airport preparing to load up the club project gyro and our Honeybee to take down to Litchfield, IL to the Doc Finn Fly-In. We decided that since we had gotten to the airport early, we would try the project gyro with a "new" used wood prop borrowed from Tom Milton. During one of my attempts to get the blades up to speed (the club gyro has no prerotator) so Nick could try the new gyro configuration out, my hand swung back too far and got whacked by the prop.

I have no one to blame for this accident but myself. I had been warned many times about the dangers of spinning props. I lost sight of that danger momentarily and learned a lesson. Thankfully, it looks like I will regain the full use of my hand with the exception of my pinky finger, which may not have full movement. I know that people have lost a lot more due to prop accidents, and I consider myself blessed. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Sincerely,
Adam Helwich

Lansing Good Neighbor Parade

On May 6th, two gyros – Adam and Nick's Honeybee and Brian Burke's Bensen made appearances atop two floats in the Lansing Good Neighbor Parade – a local church float and the EAA float.

Quad City Air Show

The club has been invited to attend the Quad City Air Show in Davenport, Iowa on June 3rd & 4th. The group in Davenport is looking for as many gyros as they can get for the air show. A couple gyros from our club may be attending. For more information and for questions, contact Tom Milton.

President

Adam Helwich
(708) 912-1624

Vice President

Jim Schuler
(708) 502-4361

Treasurer

Chuck Roberg
(630) 983-7625

Secretary

Nick Costa
(708) 296-4489

Guru/Sergeant at Arms

Dick Wunderlich
(815) 838-0450

Pictures of the Proto-Gyro Before, After, and During Flight



Website Updates

In the coming weeks, look for a new set of updates to be made on the club website www.gyroclub.com. I am changing the appearance around, which will allow us to do some faster updates, easily add pictures/news, etcetera, etcetera.

Upcoming Events

May 27th – Club Meeting (11:00 AM) – Club Hangar
 June 3rd – 4th – Quad City Air Show – Davenport, Iowa
 July 19th - 22nd – PRA National Convention – Mentone, IN

The Monster Hangar Build Team meets on Wednesday evenings in the club hangar.